

C L A I M S

1. A computerized method for processing of start-conditions processed by a computer systems acting as a Workflow-Management-System (WFMS) or a computer system with comparable functionality,

said WFMS comprising at least one process-model said process-model comprising one or more process-activities being nodes of an arbitrary graph and directed control-connectors of said graph defining a potential control flow within said process-model; and

said method evaluating, if a target-activity may be started, by evaluating the truth-value of a start-condition once the truth-values of all incoming control-connectors of said target-activity have been posted;

and said method being further characterized by

comprising a timed-evaluation-step,

said timed-evaluation-step evaluating,

if at least a first one of said incoming control-connectors is associated with a time-interval, and

if said time-interval has been met,

and, in the affirmative case, said timed-evaluation-step is continuing the processing to start said target-activity even if not all truth-values of said incoming control-connectors have been posted yet,

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if the truth-value of said first incoming control-connector has been posted, and

if said truth-value evaluates to TRUE.

2. Method for processing of start-conditions processed according to claim 1,

wherein said first incoming control-connector is associated with a commencing-activity, and

wherein said timed-evaluation-step uses as starting point for said time-interval the point in time when said commencing-activity is completed.

3. Method for processing of start-conditions processed according to claim 2,

wherein said first incoming control-connector is associated with a path from said commencing-activity to said target-activity, and

said timed-evaluation-step is continuing the processing to start said target-activity,

if said associated path has been traversed.

4. A system comprising means adapted for carrying out the steps of the method according to anyone of the preceding claims 1 to 3.

5. A data processing program for execution in a data processing system comprising software code portions for performing a method according to anyone of the preceding claims 1 to 3.

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6. A computer program product stored on a computer usable medium, comprising computer readable program means for causing a computer to perform a method according to anyone of the preceding claims 1 to 3.

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